

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Please amend claims 1-11 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A file sharing method in a storage system having a controller and a plurality of disk drives for sharing a file stored in the storage system that is connected to a first host computer, which uses a first operating system for managing first stored-location information of a file store location ~~first file~~ using a first format ~~and accessing said first file stored in said storage system~~, and that is connected to a second host computer, which uses a second operating system for managing second stored-location information of said file store location ~~a second file~~ using a second format different from said first format and ~~accessing said second file in said storage system and not identifying said stored-location information of said first file managed by said first format~~, said file sharing method being used for reading the said file, of which ~~stored-location~~ information of a file store location is said first information managed by said first format, from said second host computer,
said method comprises the steps of:
identifying an ID of said second host computer and a type of said second operating system corresponding to said ID; a relationship between a first structure of said stored-location information managed by said first format and a second structure of said stored-location information managed by said second format;
converting the said first ~~stored-location~~ information of said file store location ~~first file managed by said first format~~ into said second stored-location information of said file store location ~~managed by said second format; and~~
reading data corresponding to said ~~first file~~ on the basis of the said second stored-location information of said file store location ~~managed by said second format~~ from said disk drives; ~~and~~
~~sending said converted stored-location information of said first file and managed by said second format to said second host computer.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The file sharing method according to Claim 1, wherein:
said first operating system manages ~~a stored~~ said file store location of said ~~first~~ file on the basis of a block having a first fixed length;

said second operating system manages a ~~stored~~ said file store location of ~~second~~ said file on the basis of a block having a second fixed length that is different from said first fixed length; and

said conversion step converts the ~~said first stored location~~ information of said file store location ~~first file managed by the first format~~ into said second stored location information of said file store location ~~managed by said second format~~ according to ~~on the basis of~~ a ratio of a data length of said first fixed length to a data length of said second fixed length.

3. (Currently Amended) The file sharing method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said second ~~the stored location~~ information of said file store location ~~managed by said second format~~, which has been converted by said conversion step, is stored in a cache area in said storage system.

4. (Currently Amended) A storage system that is connected to a first host computer, which uses a first operating system for managing a first stored location information of a ~~first~~ file store location using a first format, and that is connected to a second host computer, which uses a second operating system for managing a second stored location information of a ~~second~~ said file store location using a second format different from said first format, said storage system comprising:

a plurality of disk drives for storing data therein; and

a disk controller comprising an interface for connecting to said first host computer and said second host computer, and an interface for connecting to said plurality of disk drives, wherein:

said disk controller comprises:

a means for identifying an ID of said second host computer and a type of said second operating system corresponding to said ID; ~~a relationship between a first structure of said stored location information managed by said first format and a second structure of said stored location information managed by said second format~~;

means for converting the ~~stored location~~ said first information of said file store location ~~first file managed by said first format~~ into said second stored location information of said file store location; and ~~managed by said second format~~;

;-and

a means for reading data corresponding to said ~~first~~ file on the basis of the ~~second stored location~~ information of said file store location managed by ~~said second format~~ when an access request to access said ~~first~~ file is issued from said second host computer.

5. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein:

said means for converting ~~the stored location~~ said first information of said file store location ~~first file managed by said first format~~ into ~~the stored location~~ said second information of said file store location managed by ~~said second format~~ is further for converting ~~the stored location~~ said first information of said file store location ~~first file in response to~~ according to a ratio of a data length of a first fixed-length block, which is used when said first operating system manages the stored location of said ~~first~~ file, to a data length of a second fixed-length block, which is used when said second operating system manages ~~the stored~~ said file store location of the ~~second~~ said file.

6. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein:

said second ~~the stored location~~ information of said file store location in said second format corresponding to said first ~~the stored location~~ information of said file store location in said first format ~~of said first file~~ is held by any one of said plurality of disk drives instead of the disk controller.

7. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 6, wherein:

a first disk drive and a second disk drive of said plurality of disk drives hold said first ~~stored location~~ information of said file store location ~~first file managed by said first format~~, and said second ~~stored location~~ information of said file store location ~~first file managed by said second format~~ respectively; and

both of said first disk drive and said second disk drive hold said ~~first~~ file.

8. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 7, wherein:

said disk controller accesses said first disk drive when an access request to access said ~~first~~ file is issued from said first host computer; and

said disk controller accesses said second disk drive when an access request to access said ~~first~~ file is issued from said second host computer.

9. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 4, wherein:

said disk controller comprises a means for exclusive control of an access request from said second host computer when ~~the~~ said access request to access said ~~first~~ file from said second host computer conflicts with an access request to access said ~~first~~ file from said first host computer.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage system that is connected to a first host computer, which uses a first operating system for managing a first stored-location information of a ~~first~~ file store location using a first format, and that is connected to a second host computer, which uses a second operating system for managing a second stored-location information of ~~a second~~ said file store location using a second format different from said first format, said storage system comprising:

a plurality of disk drives for storing data therein; and

a disk controller comprising an interface for connecting to said first host computer and said second host computer, and an interface for connecting to said plurality of disk drives; wherein:

said disk controller mirrors said ~~first~~ file, which is stored in any one of said plurality of disk drives and is managed under said first operating system, in another disk drive of said plurality of disk drives;

said disk controller converts ~~the stored-location~~ said first information of said ~~first~~ file store location ~~managed by said first format~~ into corresponding said second ~~stored-location~~ information of said ~~first~~ file store location ~~that is managed by said second format~~ to write the corresponding stored-location information into said another disk drive; and

said disk controller reads said ~~first~~ file from said another disk drive when an access request to access said ~~first~~ file is issued from said second host computer.

11. (Currently Amended) The storage system according to Claim 10, wherein:

said disk controller converts ~~the stored-location~~ said first information of said file store location ~~first file managed by said first format~~ into said second

~~stored location~~ information of said store location ~~first file and managed by said~~
~~second format~~, according to a ratio of a data length of a first fixed-length block, which
is used when said first operating system manages the ~~stored~~ file store location of ~~the~~
~~first~~ said file, to a data length of a second fixed-length block, which is used when said
second operating system manages ~~the stored~~ said file store location of the ~~second~~ file.